

WI-294
Horner Brothers' Store
Bivalve
Private

c. 1870-80

Standing within a few dozen feet of the edge of the Nanticoke River, the Horner Brothers' store is a distinctive historic structure in this river community. Estimated to date around 1870-80, the two-story rectangular frame structure was built with its gable end serving as the principal facade in the same manner as many country store buildings. A wide double door entrance and flanking windows is sheltered by a generous hip roofed porch. Unusual to the Horner Brothers' store is a sizable two-story wing that extends eastward from the main block.

Russell and Nelson Horner operated their village store until 1987 after many decades of operating the business. Russell and Nelson's mother Ida and their older brother, Vernon, purchased the store property in March 1926 from Wade H. Insley following the death of the former store owner, George D. Insley. At the division of G. D. Insley's property in 1914, the surveyor, P. S. Shockley, delineated several tracts in the vicinity of Bivalve, then commonly known as Waltersville. The plat drawn for the estate settlement located the commercial property on "Lot 9" of "Plat No. 1" and the site was labeled "Store and Shirt Factory." G. D. Insley is located at this site on the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas, and he is identified in the atlas patron list as a merchant holding 60 acres. At the time of the trustees sale a long notice was

published in the *Wicomico News* stating that Wade H. And Cora R. Insley intended to offer at public auction "in the front of the storehouse formerly occupied by George D. Insley & Son, at Bivalve" several parcels including the Insley store and house. (See also WI-293)

The Insley and later Horner Brothers's store was served by freight service by way of the steamboat landing during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A short section of railroad track stretched between the store and the wharf location, and a small hand cart was used to transport merchandise between the two locations.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Horner Brothers' Store

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-294

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
 Commerce

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
 1870-1930

4. Resource Type(s): Store

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WI-294

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Horner Brothers' Store

and/or common

2. Location

street & number North side of Bivalve Wharf Road ___ not for publication

city, town Bivalve ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name E. Russell Horner and Nelson W. Horner

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Bivalve state and zip code MD 21814

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 53, Parcel 152
liber 437

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 437

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-294

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The old Horner Brothers's store stands on the north side of Bivalve Wharf Road in the community of Bivalve, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story rectangular frame building faces south with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Dating around 1870-80, the two-story rectangular frame building is supported by a low brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with a combination of plain weatherboards and asphalt shingle siding. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the east side of the main block is a shorter two-story rectangular frame wing.

The south (main) facade is a gable-front elevation with a center double door entrance flanked by large size two-over-two sash windows. The entire first floor is sheltered by a hip roofed front porch, and the area under the porch survives with the plain weatherboard siding exposed. The second floor is marked by a pair of six-over-six sash windows. The gable end is trimmed with an extended eave and short returns finish the base of the roof.

The west side is a long wall pierced by two six-over-six sash windows on the first floor, while the second floor is a blind wall. An off-center brick stove chimney pierces the roofline.

The north gable end is pierced by a pair of six-over-six sash windows on the first and second floors, and a single six-over-six sash window is fixed within the gable end. The first floor windows are fitted with metal bars. The gable end eaves are extended and finished with a short return at the base of the roof.

The east side of the store is partially covered by the shorter two-story rectangular frame wing served by an off-center brick stove chimney. The east gable end of the wing is pierced by a center double door entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The double door has diagonally nailed boards that create a chevron pattern. A Victorian latch survives on the right leaf.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-294

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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Russell and Nelson Horner operated their village store until 1987 after many decades of operating the business.(1) Russell and Nelson's mother Ida and their older brother, Vernon, purchased the store property in March 1926 from Wade H. Insley following the death of the former store owner, George D. Insley.(2) At the division of G. D. Insley's property in 1914, the surveyor, P. S. Shockley, delineated several tracts in the vicinity of Bivalve, then commonly known as Waltersville. The plat drawn for the estate settlement located the commercial property on "Lot 9" of "Plat No. 1" and the site was labeled "Store and Shirt Factory."(3) G. D. Insley is located at this site on the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas, and he is identified in the atlas patron list as a merchant holding 60 acres.(4) At the time of the trustees sale a long notice was published in the *Wicomico News* stating that Wade H. And Cora R. Insley intended to offer at public auction "in the front of the storehouse formerly occupied by George D. Insley & Son, at Bivalve" several parcels including the Insley store and house. (5) See also WI-293

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(Continued)

Survey No. WI-294

PS-2746

8.1 SIGNIFICANCE

Horner Brothers' Store, WI-294

Bivalve

Footnotes

- 1 Personal interview with Nelson W. Horner, aged 88, June 27, 1996, Bivalve, Maryland.
- 2 Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 144/55, 3/31/1926, Wicomico County Courthouse.
- 3 Wicomico County Chancery Record, JCK 18/11, November 1914, Wicomico County Courthouse.
- 4 Graham, John L. ed. *The 1877 Atlases and other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Salisbury, Maryland: Peninsula Press, 1976, p. 50.
- 5 *Wicomico News* clipping in Wicomico County Chancery Record, File No. 2230, November 1914, Wicomico County Courthouse.
- 6 Horner interview.

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Horner Brothers' Store
Bivalve
Chain of title

Map 53, Parcel 152

437/437

Stanley G. Robins, Attorney

to

9/25/1957

E. Russell Horner
Nelson W. Horner

\$3,400 Lot No. 9 on Plat No. 1 drawn by P. Shockley
November 1914, filed in Chancery Case No.
2230, JCK 18/11, Wade H. Insley, et al. vs.
John W. P. Insley, et al.

Plat indicates "Store and Shirt Factory,"

George D. Insley died intestate

JWS 224/364

William W. Travers, Trustee

to

8/10/1940

Ida M. Horner

Items 1 & 2

JCK 144/55

Wade H. Insley

to

3/31/1926

Ida M. Horner
Vernon L. Horner

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Horner Brothers' Store
Bivalve
Chain of title continued

Page 2

JCK 98/122

Levin I. Insley, et al.

to

9/28/1915

Wade H. Insley

Lots 8 & 9

Trustees' Sale

—OF VALUABLE—

REALESTATE

OF THE LATE GEORGE D. INSLEY, LOCATED IN AND NEAR THE TOWN OF BIVALVE, WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND.

Under and by virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Wicomico County, Maryland, in Equity, passed in the cause of Wade H. Insley et al. vs. John W. P. Insley et al., said cause being No. 2230 Chancery in the said Court, the undersigned, trustees, will offer at public auction in front of the storehouse formerly occupied by George D. Insley & Son, at BIVALVE, WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND, on

SATURDAY, MARCH 27th, '15

at ten o'clock A. M., all those several lots, tracts or parcels of land, situated in Nanticoke Election District, Wicomico County, Maryland, and more particularly described as follows:

(1)—All those several lots or parcels of land, with the improvements thereon, situated in the Village of Bivalve, aforesaid, and on both sides of the County road running through the said village, and designated as Lots Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, on Plat No. 1, filed in the said cause.

(2)—All that lot or parcel of land with the improvements thereon, in the Village of Bivalve, aforesaid, situated near the Easterly side of the Nanticoke River, and known as the Sandy Horseman Lot, said lot carrying with it the privilege of a water front on the Nanticoke River.

(3)—All that tract or parcel of land situated on the Easterly side of and binding on the Nanticoke River, in said Village of Bivalve, containing NINETEEN AND TWENTY-SEVEN HUNDREDTHS ACRES OF LAND, more or less, and more particularly described on Plat No. 2, filed in the said cause.

The property described in items two (2) and three (3) will be offered separately and as a whole and sale thereof will be made to a bidder for the whole if the bid therefor is greater than the aggregate of the bids for the respective parcels.

(4)—All those tracts or parcels of land situated on both sides of the County road leading from Bivalve to Nanticoke, containing FORTY-SIX AND EIGHTY-EIGHT HUNDREDTHS ACRES OF LAND and TWENTY-EIGHT AND ONE-HALF ACRES OF LAND, more or less, respectively, and designated as Lots Nos. 2 and 1 on Plat No. 3 filed in said cause.

The trustees will offer the last described property separately and as a whole and sale will be made to a bidder for the whole if the bid therefore is greater than the aggregate of bids for the respective parcels.

TERMS OF SALE:

One-third cash on day of sale, one-third in six months from day of sale, one-third in twelve months from day of sale, or all cash at the option of the purchasers, the deferred payments to bear interest from day of sale until paid and to be secured by the trustees.

Title papers at the expense of the purchasers.

WADE H. INSLEY and
CORA R. INSLEY,

Trustees.

THE RESIDENCE of the late George D. Insley at Bivalve, Maryland, will also be offered for sale at the above place and time.

HEIRS OF SUSAN P. INSLEY.

Certificate of Public

Salisbury, Md.,

WE HEREBY certify that the annexed

Sale

THE WICOMICO NEWS for *three*

the *27th of March*

by *Law*

Brighton

Publishers of the

WI-294

Horner Brothers' Store
Bivalve

1877 Lake, Griffing, and
Stevenson Atlas

TYASKIN

Dist. No. 3
WICOMICO CO.



WARE WINRIGHT. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, Glassware, Notions, &c., and all goods usually kept in a country store. Whitehaven P. O.

W. G. & J. Q. TILGHMAN. Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, Glassware, Cattery, Tobacco, Cigars, Notions, &c. Tyaskin, Md.

JOHN WILLING AND CO. Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, Glassware, Notions and all articles usually kept in a country store. Nanticoke P. O.

S. A. LANGRALL. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, Glassware, and all articles usually kept in a first class country store. Store near M. E. Church, Nanticoke Point.

JNO. TURNER AND SON. Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Boots, Shoes, &c. Nanticoke, Md.

J. A. CONWAY. Physician and Surgeon. Office and Res. near M. E. Church, Nanticoke Point.

J. H. ELLIOTT. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, Glassware, Ready-made clothing, Extricks, Patent Medicines, Notions, and all goods usually kept in a first class country store. Store at Green Hill.

TYASKIN DISTRICT BUSINESS REFERENCES.

W. J. CATLIN, M. D. Physician and Surgeon. All calls promptly attended to. Res. and Office at Belgrade Farm, P. O., Tyaskin, Md.

W. D. HEATH. Dealer in Groceries, Hardware, Tobacco, Liqueurs, &c. Tyaskin, Md.

NOAH J. TILGHMAN. Proprietor of "Tyaskin Mills." Manufacturer of Corn-meal, Hominy, and all kinds of Lumber. Custom work done in sawing and grinding.

J. E. B. HORNER. Owner of the fine Sloop "James Wesley." All kinds of freighting done to and from any point on the "Chesapeake Bay," or its tributaries. Especial Attention to the purchase and freighting of Oysters. Res. and P. O., Tyaskin, Md.

J. W. WINGATE. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Hardware, Queensware, Glassware, Ready-made clothing, Confectionery, Wines, Whiskies, Brandy and Rum, and all articles usually kept in a first class country store, at Whitehaven.

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Horner Brothers' Store

Nanticoke, Maryland Quadrangle
1942









